

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. There are no prior art rejections. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 1-9 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the informalities.

Applicants respectfully traverse Examiner's rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The claimed limitation of "storage area for storing an address tag of an address of a cache data . . ." as recited in claim 1, lines 4-5, and claim 6, line 5, is supported in the specification on page 4, lines 5-6, and page 5, lines 23-24, respectively. Further, such is shown in, for example, Figure 1.

Claims 2, 4, and 7-8 have been amended in a manner believed fully responsive to the points raised by the Examiner, thereby to pass all of the claims to allowance. New claims 10-14 have been added to more fully define the invention based on Examiner's Allowable Subject Matter. No new matter has been added.

It is noted that the claim amendments herein are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims, or for any statutory requirements of patentability.

Further, it is noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicants' intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

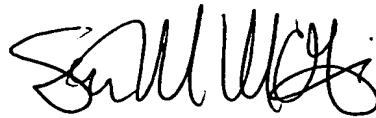
Further, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's acknowledgment of the priority document filed on July 10, 2003.

FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-14, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees or to credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,



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